

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 RANGOO 00813 100542Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /013 W
-----048902 100558Z /13
R 080806Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5031
INFO USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L RANGOON 0813

STADIS//////////

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDIP, CH
SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR GUIDANCE ON BILATERAL CONTACTS WITH PRC
CONTACTS

1. AMBASSADOR WOODCOCK WILL BE TRANSITING RANGOON MARCH 18-20
ENROUTE BACK TO PEKING FROM NEW DELHI LABOR OFFICERS CONFERENCE.
UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF ONE OF MY SENIOR OFFICERS, I AM CONSIDER-
ING INVITING LOCAL PRC AMBASSADOR TO PRIVATE LUNCH WHICH WOULD
INCLUDE ONLY PRC AMBASSADOR, HIS INTERPRETER, AMBASSADOR WOODCOCK,
AND MYSELF. HOWEVER, I AM UNCLEAR AS TO WHETHER THIS IS
PERMISSIBLE UNDER CURRENT DEPARTMENTAL INSTRUCTIONS ON
BILATERAL CONTACTS WITH PRC REPRESENTATIVES. I WOULD APPRECIATE
APPROPRIATE GUIDANCE.

2. I HAVE NOT REPEAT NOT ESTABLISHED A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH
PRC AMBASSADOR. I HAVE NOT CALLED ON HIM NOR HE ON ME. HOWEVER, I
DO SEE HIM SOCIALLY AT DIPLOMATIC FUNCTIONS AND HE HAS EXHIBITED
NO HOSTILITY. NORMALLY, HE SPEAKS, SMILES AND SHAKES HANDS. OUR
LACK OF A COMMON LANGUAGE RESTRICTS CONVERSATION. SELECTED
LOWER RANKING MEMBERS OF THE MISSION DO HAVE LIMITED CONTACTS
WITH MEMBERS OF THE PRC MISSION, GENERALLY IN A FRIENDLY
ATMOSPHERE.

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3. IT WOULD PROBABLY BE HELPFUL TO OTHER MEMBERS OF THE MISSION
WHO HAVE CONTACTS WITH PRC IF I MADE SUCH A GESTURE, EVEN IF
PRC AMBASSADOR DID NOT ACCEPT THE INVITATION. I AM CONFIDENT
THE GUB WOULD VIEW SUCH A GESTURE WITH FAVOR AND AMONG MY
DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUES, ONLY THE SOVIETS ARE LIKELY TO BE
IRRITATED OR UNDULY CONCERNED.
BEAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL, DIPLOMATIC PROTOCOL
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978RANGOO00813
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780107-0711
Format: TEL
From: RANGOON
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780393/aaaadaju.tel
Line Count: 62
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 0ac097cb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY, STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY, STADIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3404132
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REQUEST FOR GUIDANCE ON BILATERAL CONTACTS WITH PRC CONTACTS
TAGS: PDIP, CH
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0ac097cb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014